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FLOOR DEBATE

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concentrate on your carrying of the bill, and so please just, you know, help me out if you can. Is there, if...okay, say the municipality or the village or the city has some financial problems such that a creditor attaches a lien and gets these funds. Is there any liability to the state by those funds being gone?

SENATOR FRIEND: I'm sorry, Senator Bourne, the state? What...can you repeat? I'm sorry.

SENATOR BOURNE: Well, okay. As I understand it, there's a certain account that's set up for these volunteer firefighters so that they can get some money when they leave. And Senator Baker, in passing, said it's really a nominal amount. I appreciate that. But I want to know is, all right, say the village of "X" has a fund set up for its half a dozen or dozen volunteer firefighters, and somehow they run into money troubles. They have a judgment against them, and somebody attaches to the city's assets. And as I read under the green copy of the bill, they can attach to this fund. Is that right?

SENATOR FRIEND: That's correct.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. So if that money is attached and it's gone, basically it's paid out to a creditor, the city would still have an obligation to pay those monies to the volunteer firefighter who later retired. Is that accurate? I mean, they would have...they would have to live up to the vesting schedule established. Correct?

SENATOR FRIEND: No. Well, this...because of the nature of the...because of the nature of this statute, that would not be the case, Senator Bourne. I mean, we're talking about a risk and reward type of situation and, hence, the reason, you know, for a bill like this because the risk...they would rather have the risk be that of the solvency of a city, I guess, as opposed to the IRS coming and taking hold of those funds and taxing them before they're, you know, ready to be used. So...

SENATOR BOURNE: Right. I guess, again, what I'm trying to establish is what liability the state might have if there is